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GROUP 3600

**FACSIMILE Message FAX-Number: 001 (703) 305 7687
to the attention of Mr. Stephen Vu, Patent Examiner, Technology Center 3600**

Ref.: Request for Granting an Extension for the Reply to an Office Action
Application Number: 09/807,410, Filing Date: 04/19/2001, Art Unit: 3636
Confirmation Number: 5923, Inventor: Gisela Schon

Dear Mr. Vu,

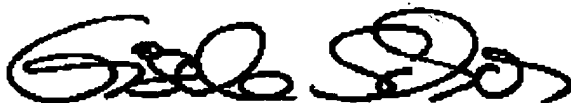
I have received the Office Action Summary, that was mailed 07/02/2002 via Air Mail through the Philippines on Tuesday 07/23/2002, informing me, that a shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 1 month from the mailing date of the communication, which will be tomorrow: 08/02/2002.

Because the US patent attorney, that helps me with my preliminary amendment is on holiday, I was not able send a proper response within that seven-day period to meet this only **1 week deadline**.

Even though you have told me on the phone, that I can send the response with the changes later and then pay the monthly fee for the elapsed time, I am so afraid, to do something wrong, especially because the attachment to this office communication mentions, that "failure to take corrective action within the set period will result in abandonment of the application".

So please accept this request for an extension and I will send the changes until September 2nd and pay the fee. In case it was not necessary to write this facsimile please forgive me and please don't be angry at me. It is 2.30 a.m. in Germany and I could not go to sleep, because I am worried about failing to act properly and in time.

With best regards



Gisela Schon